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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applic. No. : PCT/EP2004/052187  
Applicant : BOGDAN, Danut, et al.  
Int'l Filing Date: September 15, 2004  
Docket No. : 2003P13769  
Customer No.: 24131

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

- Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.
- An abstract appears on page 3 of this paper.
- Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.
- Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.